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# Middlebury Register.

VOL. XXXIII

MIDDLEBURY, VT. TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 1889.

NO. 44

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The place to buy  
GOODS CHEAP.

And any one that will call and examine

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Will acknowledge that they are selling Goods at  
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READY-MADE CLOTHING,

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"It does not always follow, as is sometimes

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the advantages of the Stock plan with the Purely

Mutual, securing greater safety, with less expense,

than either system singly.

51 1/2

The Editor Heard From.

We publish the following atrocious rhymes,  
perpetrated by some ungrateful wretch who  
was lodged in an editor's bed one night during  
the absence of its rightful occupant:

I slept in an editor's bed last night,  
And others may say what they please,  
I say there's no editor in the world  
That certainly takes his ease.

When I thought of my humble cot away,  
I could not suppress a sigh;  
But I thought, as I rolled in the feather nest,  
How easily editors "lie."

When the editor returned he picked up his  
stick and charged back upon the irreverent  
fellow as follows:

The chap whose "form" has rested here,  
And left his "copy" behind,  
For a bad "impression" should be "locked up,"  
As the "cut" is most unkind.

Behold a "proof" of "how he lies!"  
In the morning he went away,  
And like many that use an "editor's sheet,"  
Has forgotten his bill to pay.

Miscellany.

The Duchess of Sutherland.

BY HARRIET BECHER STOWE.

The late Duchess of Sutherland was one of  
those few individuals in this world  
who may be said in the general drift of  
life to have been completely fortunate.

By lineage she was of the noblest English  
blood. Her ancestral grandmother on the  
mother's side was the celebrated Duchess  
of Devonshire, whose beauty, wit, and  
genius, and the warm and decided part  
which she took in the liberal and progress-  
ive politics of her day, have become mat-  
ter of history.

The Duchess was married to the Duke  
of Sutherland, then bearing the title of  
Earl of Gower, in the year of 1823. She  
was at that time in her seventeenth year,  
and the Duke was thirty-seven, being  
twenty years her senior. The match,  
however, was not only one of the most  
brilliant in regard to worldly possessions,  
but it was a peculiarly happy one, con-  
sidered simply in relation to the quality  
of the individual.

The Duke of Sutherland was one of  
those refined and delicate characters  
whose worth can only be fully appreciated  
on an intimate acquaintance. An unfor-  
tunate infirmity of deafness prevented his  
ever taking part in the public duties of  
his station, and caused him to live in the  
great and brilliant society in which  
he moved the part of spectator rather  
than actor.

An observer who has associated with  
the English nobility much, must have  
noticed that a certain shrinking shyness  
is rather characteristic of them. Ma-  
dame de Staël, in her "Germany," gives  
the result of her observation on this point  
in her character of Lord Selville. Much  
that passes for haughtiness and reserve is  
often neither more nor less than the re-  
sult of an extreme diffidence. In the  
Duke of Sutherland this shyness was in-  
creased by the consciousness of an infirmity  
which he feared in every company might  
embarrass those who wished to communi-  
cate with him. Master of one of the  
largest estates in Great Britain, with Staf-  
ford House, Trenton Hall, and Dunrobin  
Castle, each of which could compare fa-  
vorably with any of the royal residences in  
Europe, the Duke was always the sim-  
plest, the most unostentatious, the most  
humbly conscientious of human beings.

There was something peculiar about his  
manner in their lowliness and humility;  
he seemed to ask pardon of the world for  
holding more of its wealth, power, and  
splendor than ought to be engrossed by  
one human being.

In person he was tall and graceful, and  
his manners were marked by a charm of  
considerable thoughtfulness for others that  
was very peculiar. Although his con-  
sciousness of his infirmity would have led  
him to shrink from society, yet he had so  
considerate a regard for guests in his own  
house as to always endeavor to make  
some conversation with each when under  
his roof; and with such skill and tact did  
he manage this, that the reply could gen-  
erally be expressed by a negative or af-  
firmative.

The writer well remembers one even-  
ing during a stay of some days at Dunrobin  
Castle. The dining-hall was, as usual,  
brilliantly lighted, and a company of  
about forty persons, including some of the  
first rank and beauty among the nobility,  
were present. The service of the table  
was even more than usually exquisite in  
taste and ornamentation, but the Duke  
sat at the head of all with the gentle  
thoughtfulness of manner so habitual with  
him. After a few moments he wrote  
and passed to the writer these lines of  
Milton:

"We sit on clouds and sing like pictured an-  
gels,  
And say the world runs smooth, while right  
below  
Welters the vast fermenting heap of life  
On which our state is built."

In the conversation that followed it was  
evident that his was a delicately and sen-  
sitive conscientious spirit, oppressed by  
worldly greatness as an awful trust and  
serious responsibility, and pained by  
many things in the constitution of society  
which he felt powerless to alter.

The writer once spent a pleasant day  
with the Duke and Duchess in riding  
over their estates, and viewing the various  
improvements which they were planning  
for their people. The sensitiveness which  
the Duke seemed to exhibit to the good  
or ill fortune of his poorer tenants was  
quite touching. It had been a very wet  
season, and when the Duke passed a little  
patch of wheat, just reaped, and lying

exposed to the rain, it really seemed to  
give him more pain than anything which  
could have touched himself. Whatever  
the temptations of rank and station may  
be to men who look upon them in a dif-  
ferent way, it is certain that to the Duke  
life was one long practice of the duties of  
fatherly consideration for others.

The Duchess was of a character in  
many respects different from that of the  
Duke, but harmoniously adapted to it.  
She was generous, frank, and confiding,  
with great powers of enjoyment herself,  
as well as great power of dispensing joy  
to others. Life, from the point of view  
of a beautiful woman, whose very smile  
makes summer where she moves, cannot  
be the same that it is to a thoughtful man,  
who feels chiefly the burden of its respon-  
sibilities.

The Duchess inherited no tendency to  
any form of creative literary or artistic  
talent; she did not write poems like her  
grandmother, nor occupy her leisure  
hours with drawing or painting. The  
great charm of her nature was its appreci-  
ativeness. Artists, poets, and literary  
men all found in her just enough of their  
own nature to enable her to understand  
them. With all the soft repose of man-  
ner which high-breeding gives, she pos-  
sessed the gift of a peculiar magnetic  
warmth of nature, which dispelled re-  
serve, and in a few moments placed the  
most diffident at ease with her. This  
natural advantage had been improved and  
turned to the best account by culture.

If there be any one word which express  
the beginning, middle, and end of what is  
taught to a young woman carefully brought  
up in the upper ranks of English life, it is  
Consideration. Noblesse oblige is a motto  
never lost sight of in their early trainings.  
As soon as a child can open a book or  
appreciate a picture, it is taught its duty  
to show something or do something that  
may contribute to the enjoyment of some  
friend or visitor; and life is thus made a  
study of thoughtful attention to others.

Such a training as this and such early  
habits gave to the Duchess of Sutherland,  
in her magnificent beauty, a sort of di-  
vinizing power by which she was enabled  
always to say and do the right thing, and  
to give pleasure to every one who ap-  
proached her.

One instance of her thoughtfulness is  
worth mentioning here. In a party that  
arrived at Dunrobin Castle, one evening,  
where two young American girls, who  
never had been in society in their own  
country. As the party arrived late, they  
were not dressed in season, when the bril-  
liant dinner-company assembled in the  
drawing room, previous to passing out to  
the dinner-table. The Duchess herself,  
however, attended these guests to their  
rooms, and saw to their comfort, and  
appreciated the natural diffidence of  
young persons, she bade them not to give  
themselves any uneasiness, as she would  
send after them in time for dinner.

A little while, instead of sending a servant  
to convey them to the drawing-room, she  
came herself to their apartments, and  
said, graciously, "I hope I have not  
kept you waiting," and taking a hand of  
each, with motherly tenderness, she led  
them with her into the drawing-room.

A touching story.

OF UNREASSURING PARENTAL SEVERITY.

The following narrative from a gentle-  
man in Boston, is true in every particular,  
and ought to leave an indelible impression  
upon the mind of every one who reads it,  
be they parents or not.

A few weeks before he wrote, he had  
buried his eldest son, a fine, manly little  
fellow of some eight years of age, who had  
never, he said, known a day's illness until  
that which finally removed him hence, to  
be here no more. His death occurred  
under circumstances which were pecu-  
liarly painful to his parents.

A younger brother, a delicate, sickly  
child from his birth, the next in age to  
him, had been down for nearly a fortnight  
with an epidemic fever. In consequence  
of the nature of the disease, every pre-  
caution had been adopted that prudence  
suggested to guard the other members of  
the family against it. But of this one,  
the father's eldest, he said he had little  
to fear, so rugged was he, and so gener-  
ally hearty. Still, however, he kept a  
vigilant eye upon him, and especially  
forbade his going into the pools and  
docks near his school, which it was his  
custom sometimes to visit; for he was but  
a boy, and boys will be boys, and we ought  
never frequently to think that it is their  
nature to be.

One evening this unhappy father came  
home wearied with a long day's hard la-  
bor, and vexed at some disappointments,  
which had soured his naturally kind dis-  
position, and rendered him peculiarly sus-  
ceptible to the smallest annoyance. While  
he was sitting by the fire in this unhappy  
mood of mind, his wife entered the ap-  
artment and said:

"Henry has just come in and he is a  
perfect fright! He is covered from head  
to foot with duck mud, and is wet as a  
drowned rat."

"Where is he?" asked the father stern-  
ly.

"He is shivering over the kitchen fire.  
He was afraid to come up here when the  
girl told him you had come."

"Tell Jane to tell him to come here this  
instant," was the brief reply to this infor-  
mation.

Presently the poor boy entered, half  
perished with affright and cold. His  
father glanced at his sad plight, reproach-  
ed him bitterly with his disobedience,  
spoke of the punishment which awaited  
him in the morning as the penalty of his  
offense, and in a harsh voice concluded  
with: "Now, sir, go to your bed."

"But father," said the little fellow, "I  
want to tell you—"

"Not a word, sir, go to bed!"

"I only wanted to say, father, that—"

With a peremptory stamp, an impera-  
tive wave of his hand toward the door,  
and a frown upon his brow, did that  
father, without other speech, again close  
the door against explanation or expo-  
sition.

When the boy had gone supperless and  
sad to his bed, the father sat restless and  
uneasy while supper was being prepared,  
and at the tea table ate but little. His  
wife saw the real cause of his emotion  
and remarked:

"I think, my dear, you ought at least to  
have heard what Henry had to say. My  
heart ached for him when he turned away  
with his eyes full of tears. Henry is a  
good boy after all, if he does sometimes  
do wrong. He is a kind-hearted, affec-  
tionate boy. He always was."

And thereafter the water stood in  
the eyes of that tender mother, even as  
it stood in the eyes of Henry, in the  
house of the Interpreter, as recorded by  
Banyan.

After ten the evening paper was taken  
up, but there was no news for that father  
that evening. He sat for some time in  
an evidently painful reverie, and then  
arose and repaired to his bed chamber.

As he passed the bed room where his lit-  
tle boy slept, he thought he would look  
in upon him before retiring to rest. He  
went to his low cot and bent over him. A  
big tear had stolen down the boy's cheek,  
and rested upon it; but he was sleeping  
calmly and sweetly. The father deeply  
regretted his harshness, as he gazed upon  
his son; he felt also the sense of duty;  
yet in the night, talking over the matter  
with the lady's mother, he resolved and  
promised, instead of punishing as he had  
threatened, to make amends to the boy's  
aggrieved spirit in the morning, for the  
manner in which he had repelled all ex-  
planation of his offence.

But that morning never came to the  
poor child in health. He awoke next  
morning with a raging fever on his brain  
and wild with delirium. In forty-eight  
hours he was in his shroud. He knew  
neither his father nor his mother when  
they were called to his bedside, nor at any  
moment afterward. Waiting, watching  
for one token of recognition, hour after  
hour, in speechless agony did that father  
bend over the couch of his dying son.

Once indeed he thought he saw a smile  
of recognition light up his dying eye, and  
he leaned eagerly forward, for he would  
have given words to have whispered one  
kind word in his ear, and been answered;  
but that gleam of apparent intelligence  
passed quickly away, and was succeeded  
by the cold, unmeaning glare, and the  
wild tossing of the fevered limbs, which  
lasted until death came to his relief.

Two days afterward the undertaker  
came with the little coffin, and his son, a  
playmate of the deceased boy, bringing the  
low stool on which it was to stand in the  
entry hall.

"I was with Henry," said the boy, when  
he got into the water. We were playing  
down at the Long Wharf, Henry, and  
Frank Munford, and I, and the tide was  
out very low; and there was a beam run  
out from the wharf, and Charles got out  
on it to get a fish line and hook that  
hung over where the water was deep, and  
the first thing we saw, he had slipped off  
and was struggling in the water. Henry  
threw off his cap and jumped clear from  
the wharf into the water, and after a great  
deal of hard work got Charles out, and  
they waded up through the mud to where  
the wharf was so wet and slippery, and  
I helped them to climb up the side.—  
Charles told Henry not to say anything  
about it, for if he did his father would  
never let him go near the water again.  
Henry was very sorry, and all the way  
home he kept saying, 'What will father  
say when he sees me to-night? I wish  
we had not gone to the wharf.'"